

REMARKS

Amendments to the Claims

Prior to any Office Action on the merits, Applicants have amended the claims as described below. Applicants assert that the amendments do not add any new matter to the application.

In Claim 1, the limitation “at least 80%” was deleted, and the limitation “or a polymorphic variant, allelic variant, mutant, interspecies homolog, or conservatively modified variant sequence at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:5.” Written support for this limitation in the specification at e.g., page 10, lines 9-11; page 343, line 20; page 285, line 44; page 306, line 6; page 316, line 7; and page 321, line 45.

New claims 25-37 have been added. These claims are directed to methods of diagnosing or monitoring breast cancer in a patient. The subject matter of these claims is supported by the specification at e.g., page 58, line 14 through page 61, line 6.

Response to Restriction

Applicants elect Group A corresponding to claims 1-8 which are directed to methods for detecting a breast cancer-associated transcript in a patient. Applicants submit that new claims 25-37 are also within the scope of Group A and do not require a further search.

Applicants elect the species corresponding to the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO:5, also designated in the specification by primekey number 415539.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the application is in good and proper condition for allowance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 463-8133.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: January 20, 2005

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